

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-46 (Canceled).

47. (Currently amended) The complex of claim ~~82~~ 84, wherein the MHC class II molecules have the subtype DR B1 301 or DR B1 0401.

48. (Currently amended) The complex of claim ~~82~~ 84, wherein the MHC class II molecules are recombinant MHC class II molecules.

49. (Currently amended) The complex of claim ~~82~~ 84, wherein the peptide ~~or peptide derivative~~ is bound to a soluble peptide binding derivative of said MHC class II DR3 or DR4 molecules.

50. (Currently amended) The complex of claim ~~82~~ 84, wherein the complex carries a marker group.

51-54. (Canceled).

55. (Currently amended) The complex of claim ~~82~~ 84, wherein the peptide ~~or peptide derivative~~ carries a marker group.

56. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a complex as claimed in claim ~~82~~ 84, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

57. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 56, further comprising an accessory stimulating component.

58. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 57, wherein the accessory stimulating component is a cytokine, surface antigen B7, or both.

59-81. (Canceled).

82-83. (Canceled herein).

84. (New) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 6 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39,

which is bound to an allele or a peptide-binding derivative of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402 and DR B1 0404.

85. (New) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 12 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39,

which is bound to an allele or a peptide-binding derivative of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402 and DR B1 0404.

86. (New) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 6 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39, wherein a reactive backbone and/or amino acid side group of said peptide has been derivatized by a chemical reaction,

which is bound to an allele or a peptide-binding derivative of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402 and DR B1 0404.

87. (New) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 12 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39, wherein a reactive backbone and/or amino acid side group of said peptide has been derivatized by a chemical reaction,

which is bound to an allele or a peptide-binding derivative of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402 and DR B1 0404.

88. (New) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 6 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39, wherein at least one amino acid of said peptide is replaced with a homolog of said amino acid selected from the group consisting of 4-hydroxyproline, 5-hydroxylysine, 3-methyl histidine, homoserine, ornithine, β -alanine and 4-aminobutyric acid,

which is bound to an allele or a peptide-binding derivative of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402 and DR B1 0404.

89. (New) An isolated complex comprising:

a peptide of glutamic acid decarboxylase which is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 19-39 and a fragment thereof that has at least 12 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 2, 3 or 19-39, wherein at least one amino acid of said peptide is replaced with a homolog of said amino acid selected from the group consisting of 4-hydroxyproline, 5-hydroxylysine,

3-methyl histidine, homoserine, ornithine, β -alanine and 4-aminobutyric acid,

which is bound to an allele or a peptide-binding derivative of MHC Class II molecules DR3 or DR4 selected from the group consisting of DR B1 0301, DR B1 0401, DR B1 0402 and DR B1 0404.

90. (New) The complex of claim 86, wherein the peptide is bound to a soluble peptide binding derivative of said MHC class II DR3 or DR4 molecules.

91. (New) The complex of claim 88, wherein the peptide is bound to a soluble peptide binding derivative of said MHC class II DR3 or DR4 molecules.

92. (New) The complex of claim 86, wherein the peptide carries a marker group.

93. (New) The complex of claim 88, wherein the peptide carries a marker group.